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Indian appropriation bill.

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INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

JUNE 4, 1890.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. PERKINS, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 10726.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the estimates of the honorable Secretary of the Interior for appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the various Indian tribes for the year ending June 30, 1891, and for other purposes, having had the same under consideration, beg leave to submit the following report:

The regular estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891, submitted by the honorable Secretary for this branch of the public service, amounted in the aggregate to \$5,804,399.77.

Since the regular estimates were made the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, has submitted supplementary estimates carrying several hundred thousand dollars.

The amount appropriated by the bill here reported amounts in the aggregate to \$6,312,620.46, being less than the estimates, and \$1,764,832.93 less than was appropriated by the annual appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1890.

Upon examination of the various items in the bill it will be found that while your committee have reduced the item of subsistence to various tribes much under last year, yet, owing to the fact that education through the various industrial schools, including farming, stock-raising, etc., is believed to be the most effective and successful mode of civilization, the items for that purpose have been increased; therefore the amount appropriated for the coming fiscal year is larger than it otherwise would have been. Should the policy of the Government continue in this line, the time is near at hand when the items for subsistence can and will be greatly reduced.

In the judgment of your committee the efforts that are being made to educate the Indians and to qualify them for the duties of citizenship are reasonably successful, and give great hope for the future. From all sections of the country your committee received petitions and communications urging liberal appropriations for educational purposes. To these petitions a favorable response has been made by the bill reported. As a matter of economy, if no higher or better motive is to govern us in our appropriations and in our consideration of the Indian question, it is cheaper to educate the Indians than to maintain armies and to fight them, and your committee are glad to report that the in-

dustrial schools are growing in usefulness and power, and each year are adding to the number of Indians who are fully qualified for the responsible duties of citizenship, and who are able to maintain and sustain themselves without governmental supervision or assistance.

The miscellaneous items provided for in the bill have been carefully investigated and considered by your committee, and in the judgment of your committee the appropriations should be made.

The appropriations in detail are:

Salaries of agents.....	\$87,800.00
Expenses of Indian service.....	127,000.00
Fulfilling treaty stipulations	2,687,009.28
Miscellaneous support	675,000.00
General incidental expenses.....	127,000.00
Support of schools	1,761,105.00
Miscellaneous.....	746,236.18
Interest on trust fund.....	101,470.00
Total.....	<u>\$6,312,620.46</u>